

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 4-9, 11-13, and 15-17 are pending. Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, and 11-13 are amended. Claims 1, 3, 10, and 14 were canceled in a previous amendment. Support for the amendments Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 11, and 12 can be found in the published application in numbered paragraphs [0006], [0007], [0011], and [0041], for example. Support for the amendment to Claim 13 is self-evident. Support for newly added dependent Claims 15-17 can be found in numbered paragraphs [0037], [0044], and [0045], for example. No new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 2, 4-9, and 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Tonkin (U.S. Patent No. 6,134,568, herein “Tonkin”).

At the outset, Applicant notes with appreciation the courtesy of a personal interview granted by Examiner Benjamin Dulaney and Supervisory Patent Examiner Twyler Lamb to Applicant's representative. In combination with the interview summary provided by Examiner Dulaney, the content of the personal interview is substantially summarized below in accordance with MPEP § 713.04.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 2, 4, and 11 as failing to comply with the enablement requirement, that rejection is respectfully traversed by the present response.

Amended independent Claim 2 recites:

A printing system having at least one printer, comprising:  
a document supervisory client configured to generate print condition settings; and  
a document supervisory server configured to control printing based upon a printing request from the document supervisory client in accordance with the print condition settings;  
wherein said document supervisory client makes a query to the document supervisory server via a network if the print condition settings are **permissible** in a printer, said document supervisory server returns advisability of the print condition settings to the document supervisory client,

wherein said document supervisory server changes a combination of the print condition settings and sends a **permissible** combination including one set of changed print condition settings to the document supervisory client when determining the print condition settings are **impermissible**, and

wherein said document supervisory client generates a user interface based on the one set of changed print condition settings.<sup>1</sup>

Accordingly, when the print condition settings are **impermissible**, the supervisory server changes a combination of the print condition settings and sends a permissible combination to the client.

As discussed in the personal interview, the background section of the present application describes impermissible settings.<sup>2</sup> As further discussed in the personal interview, the description of "impermissible" settings, in combination with the discussion in the detailed description regarding what settings are appropriate and what settings are inappropriate, supports claim features expressed in terms of "impermissible" and "permissible" settings.

Accordingly, as Claims 2, 4, and 11 are amended to recite entering settings that are "impermissible" or "permissible" rather than "incompatible," the rejection is overcome.

Regarding the rejection of independent Claim 2 as anticipated by Tonkin, that rejection is respectfully traversed by the present response. As discussed above, when the print condition settings are **impermissible**, the supervisory server changes a combination of the print condition settings and sends the permissible combination to the client

In contrast, as discussed in the personal interview, Tonkin changes no settings when impermissible settings are entered by a user. Rather, when confronted with impermissible settings, the device of Tonkin sends an error message to the user.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Emphasis added.

<sup>2</sup> Published Application, numbered paragraphs [0006], [0007], and [0010].

<sup>3</sup> Tonkin, col. 10, lines 23-43.

To the extent that Tonkin enters settings, Tonkin does so when settings are left unspecified by the user. Tonkin states:

If the user has specified a particular component, the document component object corresponding to that component will include a pointer to a production component object for that particular component. This is generally the case for printed pages and tab pages. **On the other hand, if the user has merely specified a type of a component to be used, the corresponding document component object preferably will merely include a reference to a class or a sub-class of production components. This will generally be the case for document bindings.** In this regard, it is generally preferable to allow the user to specify a type of binding and allow the software to select a specific binding of that type based on properties, such as thickness, of the final document. Such a selection process is described below.<sup>4</sup>

Thus, the user specifies a particular component or a type of component to be used. The software then selects a specific component such as a specific binding that will work with the component specified by the user to create a complete group of settings by which the document is produced. In other words, Tonkin allows a user to select a general high level setting while leaving selection of unspecified details up to the software. Applicant respectfully submits that Tonkin's un-entered settings are not "impermissible." Rather, Tonkin specifically permits this type of data entry by the user and accommodates it. Indeed, Tonkin describes this arrangement as "preferable." Tonkin states:

Returning to FIG. 4, upon receiving an indication that the document specification is ready, processing proceeds from step 254 to step 255. In step 255, the document component objects are combined with the production component objects. Combining these objects results in: (1) determination of values for the remaining document attributes 483 to 486 and (2) selection of specific production components for those cases where the user has merely specified a component type.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Tonkin, col. 9, lines 24-37 (emphasis added).  
<sup>5</sup> Tonkin, col. 9, lines 43-51.

Thus, Tonkin does not supply settings when settings are impermissible. Rather, Tonkin allows a user to select one general setting and then supplies the remaining settings in response to the selected general setting.

As discussed in the previous response, if the settings supplied by the user are impermissible, Tonkin merely sends an error message to the user.<sup>6</sup>

As explained above, Tonkin does not teach or suggest a document supervisory server that changes a combination of print condition settings and sends a permissible combination of settings to the document supervisory client when determining the print condition settings are impermissible as recited in amended independent Claim 2. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully requests that the rejection of Claim 2 be withdrawn.

Amended independent Claims 4 and 11 recite substantially similar features to those discussed above regarding amended independent Claim 2. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent Claims 4 and 11 patentably distinguish over Tonkin for at least the same reasons as amended independent Claim 2.

Claim 5 depends from amended independent Claim 2, and Claims 6, 7, 8, and 9 depend from amended independent Claim 4. Claims 12 and 13 depend from amended independent Claim 11. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, and 13 patentably distinguish over Tonkin for at least the same reasons as the claims from which they depend.

Newly added dependent Claims 15, 16, and 17 each depend from one of amended independent Claims 2, 4, and 11 and patentably distinguish over Tonkin for at least the same reasons as Claims 2, 4, and 11 do.

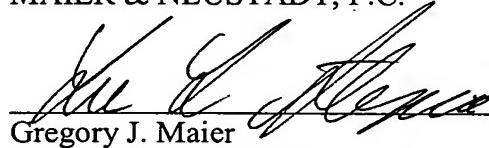
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<sup>6</sup> Tonkin, col. 10, lines 23-43.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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